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Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for

1938

together with the

Report of the Sanitary Inspector

Conbridge :

TONBRIDGE FREE PRESS, LIMITED

129 High Street

Urban District Council of Sevenoaks

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1938 on the Sanitary Conditions and Vital Statistics of the Sevenoaks Urban District by the Medical Officer of Health Together with the Report of the Sanitary Inspector

Urban District Council of Sevenoaks

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SANITARY INSPECTOR.

W. J. GYPPE, C.R.S.I.

HEALTH VISITOR.

Miss E. M. ALLIBONE.

Urban District Council of Sevenoaks

HEALTH REPORT FOR 1938.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Health Report for the year 1938, this being the sixteenth one submitted by me as your Medical Officer of Health.

The population at the time of the Census in 1931 was 10,484, while the population for mid-year 1938 as estimated by the Registrar-General was 12,780.

The Birth Rate for the year has increased from 10.9 last year to 13.9 in 1938. The Birth Rates in England and Wales were 15.1 in 1938 and 14.9 in 1937.

The Death Rate for the year was equal to 10.6 per thousand of population, as compared with 10.9 last year. The Death Rates for England and Wales were 11.6 in 1938 and 12.4 in 1937.

The Infantile Mortality Rate again decreased, this being 16 per thousand registered births, as compared with 28 last year and 27 in 1936. The Infantile Mortality Rates for England and Wales were 53 for 1938 and 58 for 1937.

The year was a fairly satisfactory one from the point of view of incidence of Infectious Disease, the number of cases notified being 39 as compared with 57 last year.

I desire to take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the help and assistance I have received from all members of the Council and its Officers, and in particular I would desire to express my appreciation of the loyal and efficient services rendered by Mr. Gypps and the Health Visitor.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

P. N. CAVE,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	3,720
Population, 1937	12,590
Registrar-General's estimate of population, mid-1938	12,780
Number of occupied houses, 1937	3,823
Number of occupied houses, December, 1938	3,928
Rateable Value of District	£154,712
Sum represented by a penny rate	£577

SECTION B.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of
estimated population.

	Total.	M.	F.
Live { Legitimate ...	170	96	74
Births { Illegitimate ...	8	7	1

Total Births	178	103	75	13.9
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Rate per 1,000 (live
and still) Births.

Still-births	2	—	2	11.2
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Death Rate per 1,000 of
estimated population.

Deaths	136	59	77	10.6
---------------	-----	----	----	------

Rate per 1,000 total
(live and still) Births.

Deaths from puerperal causes:

	Deaths.	
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	—
Other puerperal causes	1	5.55
Total	1	5.55

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births	16
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	17
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	19
do. Measles (all ages)	Nil
do. Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
do. Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ...	Nil

SECTION C.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities:—Kent County Laboratory, Maidstone.
Ambulance Facilities:—For Infectious Disease, one motor ambulance provided by the Council. For General and Accident Cases, one motor ambulance provided by the Council.

Nursing Facilities:—By Nursing Association and Health Visitor.

Clinics and Treatment Centres:—Ante-natal Clinic, held monthly. Two Infant and Child Welfare Centres, held weekly. Artificial Sunlight Clinic, held weekly.

Hospitals, Public and Voluntary:—Isolation Hospital provided by the Council. Sevenoaks and Holmesdale Hospital, for General Cases. This is a Voluntary Hospital.

Midwifery and Maternity Services:—One full-time Health Visitor employed by the Council. The supervision of midwives is under the control of the Kent County Council.

Institutional Provision for Mothers or Children:—None.

Health Visitors:—One full-time Health Visitor employed by the Council.

Infant Life Protection (under Part I. of the Children Act, 1908, as amended by the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932):—Duties carried out by the Council's Health Visitor, under the general supervision of the Medical Officer of Health.

Orthopædic Treatment:—The Council, by agreement, participate in the general scheme of the Kent County Council.

Nursing Homes:—Medical Officer of Health of Local Supervising Authority: P. N. CAVE, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. Action taken during the year under the Public Health Act, 1936, and the arrangements made for the supervision of maternity and nursing homes registered under the Act: Visits and inspections made as necessary.

HEALTH REPORT.

The Urban District of Sevenoaks is situated in the Northern part of the Sevenoaks Rural District, by which it is entirely surrounded.

AREA AND POPULATION.

The District has an area of 3,720 acres, of which 451 acres were added under the Kent Review Order, the old area having contained 3,259 acres.

At the time of the Census in 1921 the population was 9,060, and by the time of the Census in 1931 this had increased to 10,484. The population for mid-year 1938 as estimated by the Registrar-General was 12,780.

The number of occupied houses in 1931 was 2,056, and in 1938, 3,928.

The District has a Rateable Value of £154,712, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £577.

The following Table shows the estimated population for the past fifteen years, together with the actual populations at the time of the 1921 and 1931 Censuses:

	1921 Census	1931 Census	Estimated Populations														
			1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Population	9060	10484	9171	9191	9440	9598	10030	10180	11000	10270	10880	10990	11985	12230	12440	12590	12780
Inhabited Houses ...	2056	2498	2213	2218	2263	2398	2498	2700	2409	2731	2824	2942	3361	3473	3677	3828	3928

VITAL STATISTICS. BIRTHS.

During the year 178 Births were registered as belonging to the District, of which number 103 were males and 75 were females. This is equal to an Annual Birth Rate of 13.9 per thousand of population, as compared with 10.9 last year.

The Birth Rates for England and Wales were 15.1 in 1938 and 14.9 for 1937.

The number of Births registered as being illegitimate was eight, of which seven were males and one was a female.

There were also two still-births, both being females.

DEATHS.

The number of Deaths registered during the year as belonging to this District was 136 (59 males and 77 females).

This number includes those deaths which, although occurring outside belonged to this District, but excludes deaths occurring inside but belonging to other districts.

The Death Rate for the year was equal to 10.6 per thousand of population, as against 10.9 last year.

The Death Rate in England and Wales was 11.6, and in 1937, 12.4.

The diseases claiming the largest number of deaths were: Heart Disease 34, Cancer 19, and Cerebral Hæmorrhage 11.

The following Table shows the diseases having the greatest influence on the Death Rate for the past sixteen years:

Year	Heart Disease	Cancer	Cerebral Hæmorrhage	Bron- chitis	Pneu- monia	Pulmon- ary Tub- erculosis
1938	34	19	11	3	4	2
1937	31	23	6	4	5	5
1936	25	17	9	4	13	3
1935	34	25	4	2	3	10
1934	28	21	6	6	5	4
1933	37	18	12	2	2	9
1932	28	20	10	2	3	5
1931	19	14	8	10	7	6
1930	19	18	9	4	5	7
1929	18	16	10	3	10	7
1928	18	16	8	1	6	4
1927	17	12	5	8	6	4
1926	13	19	6	2	5	12
1925	19	13	13	7	4	5
1924	18	11	7	5	3	7
1923	12	22	11		5	8

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths registered as occurring in infants under one year of age was three (two males and one female). All of these were legitimate.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was equal to 16 per thousand births, as compared with 28 last year.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 53, and for 1937, 58.

DEATHS AT DIFFERENT AGES.

Deaths in Children Between One and Five Years.—Two deaths occurred in children between the ages of one and five years. This is equal to a Death Rate of 0.15 per thousand of population.

Deaths in Persons of 65 Years and Over.—The number of deaths registered as occurring in persons of 65 years and over was 88. This is equal to a Death Rate of 6.9 per thousand of population, and comprises 64.7 per cent. of total deaths.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.

The Deaths registered during the year included:

Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital Debility, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Accident	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

VITAL STATISTICS—PRINCIPAL FEATURES.

The following Table shows a comparison of the main features in Vital Statistics for the District during the past sixteen years:

Year	...	...	...	...	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923
Population	...	...	...	...	12,780	12,590	12,440	12,230	11,985	10,990	10,880	10,170	11,000	10,180	10,030	9,598	9,440	9,191	9,171	8,967
Number of births	...	...	...	...	178	138	146	148	156	112	137	120	131	104	134	122	102	131	123	125
Birth-rate (per 1000 of population)	...	...	...	...	13.9	10.9	11.7	12.1	13.2	10.1	12.5	11.6	11.9	10.2	13.0	12.7	10.8	14.2	13.4	13.9
Number of deaths registered	...	...	...	...	136	138	130	127	125	138	132	100	109	125	110	110	123	107	108	106
Death-rate (per 1000 of population)	...	...	...	...	10.6	10.9	10.4	10.3	10.5	12.5	12.1	9.7	9.9	12.2	10.9	11.4	13.0	11.6	11.7	11.8
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1000 registered births)	...	...	...	...	16	28	27	40	38	8	21	41	38	57	37	40	19	45	82	56

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

The Zymotic Death Rate is a term commonly applied to the rate of deaths from the seven principal zymotic complaints, viz.: Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, and "Fever," which latter includes Typhus, Typhoid (or Enteric), and Paratyphoid Fevers.

During the year no deaths occurred from these complaints.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

The deaths occurring from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Consumption or Phthisis) numbered two. This is equal to a Death Rate of 0.15 per thousand of population.

OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

The deaths from other diseases of the respiratory system numbered 16. This gives a Death Rate of 1.25 per thousand of population.

CANCER.

The number of deaths from Cancer (malignant disease) was 19. The Death Rate from Cancer was 1.48 per thousand of population.

INFLUENZA.

During the year two deaths occurred from Influenza, the Death Rate being 0.15 per thousand of population.

Analysis of Death Rates.

Year		All Causes	Zymotic Disease	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Respiratory	Cancer	Influenza
1938	Number of Deaths	136	—	2	16	19	2
	Rate per 1000 of Population	10.6	—	0.15	1.25	1.48	0.15
1937	Number of Deaths	138	—	5	11	23	3
	Rate per 1000 of Population	10.9	—	0.39	0.87	1.79	0.23
1936	Number of Deaths	130	2	3	20	17	2
	Rate per 1000 of Population	10.4	0.16	0.24	1.60	1.36	0.16
1935	Number of Deaths	127	1	10	7	25	3
	Rate per 1000 of Population	10.3	0.08	0.81	0.57	2.04	0.24
1934	Number of Deaths	125	2	4	11	21	2
	Rate per 1000 of Population	10.5	0.16	0.32	0.93	1.77	0.16
1933	Number of Deaths	138	3	9	10	18	4
	Rate per 1000 of Population	12.5	0.27	0.81	0.90	1.63	0.36
1932	Number of Deaths	132	1	5	5	20	12
	Rate per 1000 of Population	12.1	0.09	0.45	0.45	1.83	1.10
1931	Number of Deaths	100	1	6	18	14	5
	Rate per 1000 of Population	9.7	0.09	0.58	1.75	1.36	0.48
1930	Number of Deaths	109	0	7	9	18	0
	Rate per 1000 of Population	9.9	0.0	0.63	0.81	1.63	0.0
1929	Number of Deaths	125	2	7	14	16	12
	Rate per 1000 of Population	12.2	0.19	0.68	1.37	1.57	1.17
1928	Number of Deaths	110	0	4	8	16	1
	Rate per 1000 of Population	10.9	0.0	0.39	0.79	1.5	0.09
1927	Number of Deaths	110	1	4	15	12	7
	Rate per 1000 of Population	11.4	0.1	0.4	1.5	1.2	0.7

**BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
MATERNAL DEATH RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1938.**

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Popula- tions 25,000 to 50,000, 1931 Census	London Administrative County	Sevenoaks Urban District
Rates per 1,000 Population					
BIRTHS:					
Live	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4	13.9
Still	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48	
DEATHS:					
All Causes	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4	10.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	...	0.00	..	...
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.00
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06	0.15
NOTIFICATIONS:					
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	...	...
Scarlet Fever	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05	1.17
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90	0.31
Enteric Fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.07
Erysipelas	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46	0.07
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98	0.07
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
Deaths under one year of age	53	57	51	57	16
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years of age	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1	...
MATERNAL MORTALITY:					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	} Not available.			5.61
Others	2.19				
Total	3.08				
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)					
MATERNAL MORTALITY:					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	} Not available.			} 5.55
Others	2.11				
Total	2.97				
NOTIFICATIONS:					
Puerperal Fever	14.42	18.08	12.51	{ 3.53 15.46	5.55
Puerperal Pyrexia					

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

From the point of view of incidence of Infectious Disease, the year 1938 was a very satisfactory one, the number of certificates of notification having fallen from 57 last year to 39 in 1938. This decrease is largely due to the number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified being much less.

The following Table shows the number of cases notified, together with the number removed to hospital, and the number of deaths:

Disease	Number Notified	Removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	15	13	...
Diphtheria	4	4	...
Typhoid Fever	1	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	...	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis	1	...	...
Pneumonia	1	...	4*
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	1	...
Measles	14	1	...
TOTALS	39	19	4

* All forms.

The following Table shows the number of cases notified during the past nineteen years:

	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Scarlet Fever	6	10	8	6	5	16	10	37	16	16	61	31	27	21	14	5	13	39	15
Diphtheria	4	...	5	7	1	1	1	4	1	4	...	1	3	9	10	5	2	4	4
Typhoid Fever	1	...	...	1	4	...	2	...	2	2	4	1	...	1	2	1	...	...	1
Erysipelas	3	1	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	2	1	...	5	...	4	3	1	1	1
Pneumonia	...	2	...	...	1	1	1	4	1	10	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	2	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	...
Dysentery	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	2	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	165	2	39	4	37	4	216	9	14
TOTALS	16	14	13	15	12	27	18	46	24	27	235	38	80	38	70	70	236	57	39

The monthly incidence of Infectious Disease was :

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	1	...	1	1	3	1	...	1	2	1	2	2	15
Diphtheria	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	4
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	2	2	6	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
TOTALS	6	2	7	3	6	1	2	1	2	3	4	2	39

The Infectious Disease falls into the following age-groups:

0-1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-35	35 and over
2	3	10	7	15	2

SCARLET FEVER.

A large decrease in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified took place, viz. 15, as compared with 39 last year. The cases were distributed fairly evenly over the whole year.

Thirteen cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

No deaths were registered as occurring from Scarlet Fever.

DIPHTHERIA.

During the year four cases of Diphtheria were notified, this being the same number as last year.

All the patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

No deaths were registered.

TYPHOID FEVER.

During the year one case of Typhoid Fever was notified, this being the first case occurring in the District since 1935.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

One case was notified, this being the same number as was notified last year.

ERYSIPELAS.

One case was notified.

ACUTE POLLOMYELITIS AND ACUTE POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS.

One case of Acute Poliomyelitis and one case of Acute Polio-encephalitis were notified.

This is the first occasion in the last nineteen years on which either of these diseases have been notified.

PNEUMONIA.

One case was notified, as compared with two last year.

The total number of deaths registered as occurring from Pneumonia (all forms) was four.

MEASLES.

Under the Sevenoaks (Measles) Regulations, 1929 (dated the 17th May, 1929), Measles was made a compulsorily notifiable disease. These Regulations came into force on the 1st July, 1929.

During the year 14 cases were notified, as against nine last year.

One case was removed to the Isolation Hospital.

No deaths were registered as occurring from this disease.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year eight new cases of Tuberculosis were notified, as compared with nine last year.

The eight new cases comprised:

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	5	1	6
Non-Pulmonary	2	—	2
Total	7	1	8

The number of deaths was two, viz.:

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	2	—	2
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—
Total	2	—	2

The following Table shows the number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year, together with the number of deaths at various age-periods:

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 and under 5 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 ,, 10 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 ,, 15 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 ,, 20 ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
20 ,, 25 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 ,, 35 ...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
35 ,, 45 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 ,, 55 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55 ,, 65 ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 and over ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	5	1	2	—	2	—	—	—

The treatment for cases of Tuberculosis is carried out by the Kent County Council through the agency of their Tuberculosis Officers, and sanatorium treatment, where accommodation is available, is provided for both insured and uninsured patients.

During the year the following number of patients from this District received treatment:

Number of persons receiving sanatorium treatment	...	...	12
Number of persons receiving dispensary treatment	...	...	3
Dispensary supervision only	...	...	40

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

Subjoined are the figures for cases remaining on the register at the end of each quarter since 1924, when the Regulations came into force:

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1925						
31st March	15	19	34	12	16	28
30th June	15	19	34	14	17	31
30th September	16	20	36	15	17	32
31st December	13	20	33	15	17	32
1926						
31st March	12	21	33	15	17	32
30th June	12	20	32	15	17	32
30th September	11	19	30	15	17	32
31st December	13	19	32	16	17	33
1927						
31st March	14	20	34	17	17	34
30th June	16	21	37	17	18	35
30th September	16	22	38	17	18	35
31st December	18	23	41	17	19	36
1928						
31st March	17	24	41	18	19	37
30th June	18	25	43	18	20	38
30th September	16	25	41	18	20	38
31st December	17	25	42	18	20	38
1929						
31st March	18	24	42	18	20	38
30th June	19	24	43	18	21	39
30th September	19	25	44	18	22	40
31st December	19	24	43	18	22	40
1930						
31st March						
30th June	19	24	43	18	21	39
30th September	19	23	42	18	22	40
31st December	21	23	44	18	23	41
1931						
31st March	21	24	45	18	23	41
30th June	19	24	43	18	23	41
30th September	19	23	42	17	23	40
31st December	18	24	42	17	23	40
1932						
31st March	18	24	42	17	23	40
30th June	18	25	43	17	22	39
30th September	18	25	43	17	22	39
31st December	19	28	47	18	21	39
1933						
31st March	21	29	50	18	21	39
30th June	23	28	51	18	21	39
30th September	21	28	49	17	22	39
31st December	20	27	47	17	22	39
1934						
31st March	20	27	47	17	22	39
30th June	20	28	48	17	21	38
30th September	18	25	43	17	22	39
31st December	20	28	48	17	21	38
1935						
31st March	23	28	51	17	22	39
30th June	22	30	52	17	22	39
30th September	23	32	55	19	21	40
31st December	22	32	54	20	21	41
1936						
31st March	23	34	57	22	22	44
30th June	23	35	58	23	22	45
30th September	22	34	56	23	21	44
31st December	22	33	55	23	21	44
1937						
31st March	22	34	56	24	22	46
30th June	23	33	56	24	23	47
30th September	23	34	57	24	23	47
31st December	24	35	59	24	23	47
1938						
31st March	24	36	60	25	23	48
30th June	25	36	61	26	22	48
30th September	26	36	62	28	22	50
31st December	25	36	61	28	22	50
	25	36	61	28	22	50

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.

It was not found necessary on any occasion during the year for the Council to take steps to secure an Order for the compulsory removal to hospital of a person suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was required under the powers conferred by the above Regulations in respect of Tuberculosis in the milk trade.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Whooping Cough.—No deaths were registered during the year.

Diarrhoea and Enteritis (Under Two Years).—No deaths were registered during the year.

Cancer.—During the year 19 deaths were registered as occurring from Cancer (nine males and ten females). This is equal to a Death Rate of 1.48 per thousand of population.

PATIENTS ADMITTED TO THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

During the year the following number of patients were admitted to the Isolation Hospital:

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19

The cases of Tuberculosis were admitted under an arrangement which has been sanctioned by the Ministry of Health between the Kent County Council and the Sevenoaks Urban District Council.

During the year 17 cases of Tuberculosis were discharged, and two died.

Disinfector.—There is a Washington-Lyons Disinfector in the hospital grounds, which is in efficient order.

LABORATORY WORK.

The County Laboratory at Maidstone carries out the bacteriological work in connection with this District.

The following number of specimens from this District have been examined there during the year:

	Positive	Negative	Total
Swabs for Diphtheria ...	5	100	105
Swabs for Scarlet Fever ...	13	37	50
Widals for Typhoid Fever ...	—	5	5
Sputum for Tubercle ...	83	66	149
Totals ...	101	208	309

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

In every case of Infectious Disease notified, the case is visited and full particulars obtained. I am always glad to see any doubtful case in consultation with the Doctor in charge, and I have pleasure in recording the cordial co-operation I have received from all the Medical Practitioners in this respect. This, I am sure, is of great assistance in dealing with the incidence of Infectious Disease.

When any outbreak of Infectious Disease arises in connection with the scholars attending any school, whether a private school or a public elementary school, particular attention is always given to any possible factor which may be tending to cause the spread of infection.

DISINFECTION.

A Washington-Lyons Disinfectant has been provided by the Council, and is situated in the grounds of the hospital at Oak Lane.

Fumigation of rooms is carried out as a routine measure in all cases of Infectious Disease.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION.

In order to facilitate the Isolation Hospital treatment of Infectious Disease, an arrangement has been entered into by the Council with the Sevenoaks Rural District Council. Under this, cases from the Urban and the Rural District can be treated either at the Urban District Council's Hospital, or at the North Isolation Hospital, Otford, under the control of the Rural District Council. The object of this is to increase the value of the available bed accommodation at the two hospitals, and also to secure economy of working.

Further arrangements have been made for the temporary interchange of members of the nursing staffs at the two hospitals, when practicable and desirable.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

A complete Hospital is provided by the Council for the reception of cases of Infectious Disease, and is situated in Oak Lane, in the Urban District of Sevenoaks. Previously it was situated in the Sevenoaks Rural District, but was included in the Urban area by the Kent Review Order, 1934.

The accommodation consists of two separate pavilions, together with an administrative block, laundry, disinfection block and mortuary.

Each of the pavilions contains six beds, and consists of three separate wards containing one, two and three beds respectively. There are ample and suitable sanitary annexes to each pavilion.

A motor ambulance is kept for use for cases of Infectious Disease only.

Electric light has now been installed throughout the Hospital.

An extension of the accommodation for the staff is contemplated, and, it is hoped, will be shortly commenced.

STAFF.

A permanent Matron and Nurse were appointed and commenced duty on 1st March, 1924.

In July, 1924, an arrangement was made with the Kent County Council whereby the Council place the Southern Pavilion at the disposal of the County Council for the reception of eight cases of Tuberculosis.

This was sanctioned by the Ministry of Health; and the first Tuberculosis patients were admitted on the 17th July, 1924. In July, 1925, arrangements were made by the County Council, with the sanction of the Ministry of Health, for the number of Tuberculosis patients to be increased from eight to twelve. With the widening and improvement of the verandah of the Recreation Room, this number has been increased to 15.

The staff at the Hospital now consists of:

1 Matron	1 Laundress
1 Assistant Matron	1 Housemaid
5 Nurses	2 Wardmaids
1 Cook	1 Betweenmaid

The outdoor staff consists of one gardener and one assistant gardener.

RECREATION ROOM.

A Recreation Room has been added in connection with the Southern Block, to which it is connected by a covered way.

This has proved a very welcome addition and has added immeasurably to the comfort and well-being of the patients.

DRAINAGE.

The Darenth Valley Main Sewerage Board was formed under the Local Government Provisional Order Confirmation (Darenth Valley) Act, 1878, of Representatives from the Sevenoaks Urban and Dartford and Sevenoaks Rural District Councils, for the purpose of constructing and maintaining a trunk sewer through the Valley of the River Darenth from Westerham to Dartford, from which point the sewage is conveyed through the sewers of the Urban District Council of Dartford and the West Kent Main Sewerage Board to the Outfall Works of the latter Authority at Longreach. The area consists of those parts of the respective Districts lying between the Northern and Southern boundaries of the Darenth Watershed.

With the exception of outlying portions, which are on the cesspool system, the District is well sewered.

The following were the approximate number of each type of closet existing at the end of the year:

Water closets draining to sewers	...	...	...	...	...	3,805
Water closets draining to cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	146
Earth closets or privy middens	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pail closets	...	...	...	...	...	5

During the year the following extensions to sewers were carried out:

St. John's Road	...	...	...	...	...	140 feet of 4in.
Bosville Estate	...	...	...	...	...	190 „ „ 4in.
Bosville Estate	...	...	...	...	...	725 „ „ 6in.
Shenden Way	...	...	...	...	...	720 „ „ 6in.
Greenwood Way	...	...	...	...	...	670 „ „ 6in.
Brittain's Lane	...	...	...	...	...	4,500 „ „ 9in.
Redlands Road	...	...	...	...	...	860 „ „ 9in.

The following extensions to surface water sewers were also carried out:

Bosville Estate	...	...	...	...	...	250 feet of 4in.
Greenwood Way	...	...	...	...	...	840 „ „ 6in.
Brittain's Lane	...	...	...	...	...	4,500 „ „ 9in.
Redlands Road	...	...	...	...	...	860 „ „ 9in.

SANITARY STATISTICS.

No. of Houses connected to the sewer	No. of Houses not connected to sewers	No. of Houses not provided with a piped water supply	No. of wells still in use for purpose of domestic supply
3802	150	—	—

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

W.C.'s	Pan or Pail Closets	Midden Privies	Ashpits separate from Midden Privies	Cesspools	
				No. of	No. of houses into
5585	5	2	Nil	139	146

WATER SUPPLY.

The whole of the District is supplied with water from the mains of the Sevenoaks Water Works Company.

The water is in every way suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

In accordance with an arrangement made with the County Medical Officer of Health, two samples of water are taken each month from various parts of the District and submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

During the year, 2,743 yards of new mains were laid.

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL.

The collection of house refuse is undertaken by the Council's staff under the supervision of the Surveyor.

A weekly collection of house refuse is made throughout the District, and is disposed of on the Bradford system on the Council's own land at Greatness.

The Council possesses a Dennis 750-gallon mechanical cesspool emptier, and the cesspools on the outlying parts of the District are emptied upon request and payment. This machine is also used for sewer flushing, gully emptying and haulage work. (For the latter purpose the tank is detached and a general purpose body is fitted.)

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses During the Year.

(1) (a)	Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	41
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	184
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	17
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	143
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	4
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	17

2.—Remedy of Defects During the Year Without Service of Formal Notices.

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	14
--	---	----

3.—Action Under Statutory Powers During the Year.

(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By owners ...	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By owners ...	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	Nil

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | | |
|---|--------|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | ... .. | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... .. | Nil |

4.—Housing Act, 1936, Part IV : Overcrowding.

- | | | |
|--|--------|-----|
| (a) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of year | ... .. | 3 |
| (2) Number of families dwelling therein | ... .. | 3 |
| (3) Number of persons dwelling therein | ... .. | 22 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | ... .. | 1 |
| (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | ... .. | 4 |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases | ... .. | 37 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | ... .. | Nil |

Number of New Houses erected during the year:—

By the Local Authority	... ..	13
By other persons	... ..	94

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Maternity and Child Welfare work in this District is under the control of the Urban District Council, and does not come within the scope of the general scheme of the Kent County Council.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

An Ante-natal Clinic has been established at Dorset House, St. John's Road, Sevenoaks.

Sessions are held on the third Tuesday in each month at 2.30 p.m.

Dr. A. Carnavon Brown is the Medical Officer in charge.

During the year 12 sessions were held, and a total of 120 attendances were made, representing an average of 10 per session.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

The Council has established two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, viz.: one at Dorset House, St. John's Road, and the other at Church House, High Street.

The Medical Officer in charge is Dr. A. Carnavon Brown.

Sessions are held at both Centres each Thursday afternoon at 3 p.m.

ATTENDANCE AT THE CENTRES.

Number of names on register:

				Church House.	Dorset House.
Mothers	...	...	...	41	96
Children	...	...	...	48	126
Number of attendances:					
Mothers	...	...	...	583	1,822
Children	...	...	...	658	2,400
Number of sessions held				47	47
Average attendance per session:					
Mothers	...	...	...	12.617	38.8
Children	...	...	...	14	51

SUNLIGHT TREATMENT.

A valuable addition to the Child Welfare work in this District is the installation of the necessary apparatus which enables sunlight treatment to be given to those needing it. It has again this year proved to be of great benefit, and has been much appreciated.

The number of sessions held during the year was 116, at which 1,525 treatment were given to 57 children.

FREE AND ASSISTED SUPPLY OF MILK to Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and Children under Five Years of age.

During the year 1,750 pints of fresh milk and 38 lbs. of dried milk were supplied free in necessitous cases, and 798 lbs. of dried milk were supplied at cost price.

NURSING OF MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH, EPIDEMIC DIARRHOEA, POLIOMYELITIS, ETC.

In cases of the above-mentioned diseases the Health Visitor pays visits in cases which may require her services. This has proved a valuable addition to the Public Health services, and much good work has been done.

VOLUNTARY WORK IN CONNECTION WITH MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

I should again like to draw attention to the very valuable work carried out during the year 1938 by the voluntary workers of the Sevenoaks Mothers' and Babies' Welfare.

The Maternity and Child Welfare work reaches a very satisfactory standard, and this is largely due to the amount of keen and sympathetic help given by the organisation.

HEALTH VISITOR.

The Council employs the services of one full-time Health Visitor, who works under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health.

During the year a total of 2,284 visits were paid by her.

The following is a detailed list of the visits paid:—

Visits to births and infants under one year of age	775
Visits to children between one and five years	1,243
Visits to cases of Measles	14
Visits to cases of Scarlet Fever, Chicken-pox, German Measles and Mumps	42
Visits to cases of Whooping Cough	6
Ante-natal visits	66
Miscellaneous visits	138
Total	<hr/> 2,284 <hr/>

NURSING AND MATERNITY HOMES.

The powers under the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to Nursing Homes has been delegated by the Kent County Council to the District Council.

There are seven Nursing and Maternity Homes registered in this District.

These provide 11 beds for maternity cases and 31 beds for other cases.

SCHOOLS.

There are four elementary and two secondary schools in the District.

The medical inspection of school children is carried out by the Kent County Council.

Inspection of the sanitary arrangements at the schools is made from time to time.

All schools are supplied with a main supply of water.

It was not found necessary to close a school on account of the incidence of Infectious Disease amongst the scholars during the year, nor were any Certificates covering low attendance for the same cause issued.

REGULATED TRADES.

There are ten registered premises within the District, of which nine are Dairies and one is a Cowshed.

During the year 132 visits of inspection were paid, and in only one instance was a defect discovered. This has since been remedied.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The Council granted the following number of licences under the above Order during the year:—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

MILK SUPPLY.

Frequent inspections have been made of all dairies in the District, and during the year the following number of samples were taken and submitted to the County Laboratory for examination:—

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order	...	...	...	24
Ordinary milk	...	...	...	4

Eleven samples of milk as supplied to the Council's Isolation Hospital, Oak Lane, were also submitted for analysis.

One sample of milk was submitted for the presence of Tubercle bacilli. This proved negative.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are four Slaughterhouses in the District, two of which are registered and two licensed.

During the year 412 visits were paid to these premises, and on three occasions defects were found. These have all been remedied.

MEAT.—CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	137		277	1022	793
Number Inspected ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	...	...	...	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	3	...	...	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis (approximate)	2.9		...	...	0.1
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	1	...	...	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	...	...	...	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis (approximate) ...	2.9		...	...	1.1

PIGGERIES.

There are no Piggeries within the District.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are eight Bakehouses in the District, to which 54 visits have been paid. Three defects were found, all of which have since been abated.

**COMMON LODGING-HOUSES AND HOUSES-LET-IN-
LODGINGS.**

There are no Common Lodging-Houses nor Houses-Let-in-Lodgings in this District.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 74 Factories and Workshops within the District, of which 27 are Factories and 47 are Workshops. In addition there are six Workplaces.

During the year 77 visits were paid to these premises, and six defects were found.

A detailed list of the Factories and Workshops remaining at the end of the year is shown in the following Table:—

	Factories.	Workshops.	Total.
Motor and Cycle Works	6	11	17
Laundries	2	1	3
Printing Works	6	...	6
Builders and Carpenters	5	6	11
Saw Mills	2	...	2
Cleaners and Dyers	2	...	2
Brickworks	1	...	1
Water Works	1	...	1
Gas Works	1	...	1
Carpet Cleaning Works	1	...	1
Shoeing Forge and Engineer ... ..	...	2	2
Boot Repairers ... ..	...	7	7
Tin Smith ... ..	...	1	1
Watchmakers ... ..	...	3	3
Photographers... ..	...	2	2
Wheelwright ... ..	...	1	1
Upholsterers ... ..	...	5	5
Harness Makers ... ..	...	2	2
Dressmakers and Tailors ... ..	...	6	6
TOTAL	27	47	74

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

PREMISES	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
FACTORIES ... (Including Factory Laundries)	28	...	...
WORKSHOPS ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	32	...	...
WORKPLACES ... (Other than Out-workers' premises)	17	...	...
TOTAL ...	77	...	...

2.—Defects Found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

PARTICULARS. (1)	Number of Defects.			No. of offences in respect of which prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts —†</i>				
Want of cleanliness	3	3	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient ...	—	—	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	—
{ not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	6	6	Nil	Nil

† Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

SUMMARY OF REGULATED TRADES.

	No. of Premises	Visits Paid	Defects	
			Found	Remedied
Dairies.	9	108	1	1
Cowsheds.	1	24	—	—
Slaughterhouses				
Licensed	2	412	3	3
Registered	2			
Bakehouses.	8	54	3	3
Piggeries	—	—	—	—
Other food pre- paring places	35	160	8	8
Factories.	27	25	4	4
Workshops.	47	36	1	1
Workplaces.	6	16	1	1
Common Lodging Houses	—	—	—	—
Houses let in lodgings	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	137	835	21	21

SHOPS ACT.

From the 1st January, 1938, the duties and powers of the Shops Acts, 1912-34, together with the Retail Meat Dealers' Shops (Sunday Closing) Act, 1936, and the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Act, 1936, were administered by the District Council under delegation from the Kent County Council, dated the 20th May, 1937.

The whole of the shops in the District have now been visited and recorded on inspection sheets.

Under the Shops Acts, 1912-34, 355 visits were paid, and 50 contraventions dealt with; and under the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Act, 1936, 170 visits have been paid, and 12 contraventions dealt with.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year two complaints were received relating to smoke nuisances. These were both satisfactorily abated after consultation with the owners of the properties.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There is only one public swimming bath in the District, this being a covered bath owned by the council and situated in Eardley Road, Sevenoaks.

The water for the bath is passed through a continuous filtration plant.

Two samples of the water were taken during the year and submitted to the County Laboratory. Both were reported as being good waters.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year one Council house was found to be infested with bed bugs, and was disinfested.

The number of other houses found to be infested was two, and disinfestation was undertaken in both cases.

The method employed was by spraying with zaldecide. In the case of Council houses the work is undertaken by the Local Authority, and in other cases by the owners of the properties.

The belongings of tenants are examined before their removal into a Council house, and on no occasion during the year was it found necessary to take any action.

Instructions against the re-infestation of premises is given to tenants when disinfestation takes place.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Constant supervision is paid to all watercourses within the District. No action was required during the year.

CAMPING SITES.

There are no camping sites within the District.

No applications have been received by the Council for a licence under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was not found necessary to institute legal proceedings to enforce the abatement of a nuisance.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

The duties under the above Act are carried out by the Kent County Council.

AMBULANCES.

For Infectious Cases.—During the year an agreement was entered into with the Rural District Council of Sevenoaks, whereby the latter Authority undertake the removal of infectious disease cases in the Urban area.

For Accident and General Cases.—During the year the Council purchased a new 18-h.p. Austin ambulance for the removal of accident and general cases, and in addition possesses a reserve Morris ambulance for similar cases.

Under an agreement with the Sevenoaks Rural District Council, this Council's ambulance is available for use in a part of the Rural District of Sevenoaks.

HOSPITALS.

This District is served by the following Hospitals:—

General Cases.—Sevenoaks and Holmesdale General Hospital; County Hospital, Farnborough; and County Hospital, Pembury.

Infectious Cases (except Smallpox).—Isolation Hospital, Oak Lane, Sevenoaks.

Infectious Cases (Smallpox).—By arrangement, cases are removed to the West Kent Joint Smallpox Hospital.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Pathologist of the Kent County Council at the Laboratory, Maidstone.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Kent County Laboratory at Maidstone provides the laboratory facilities for this District.

MIDWIVES.

The Kent County Council is the Supervising Authority under the Midwives Act for this District.

The following midwives have given Notice of Intention to practice in this area during the year:—

Cunningham, C., Holly Lodge, The Vine, Sevenoaks.

Dunk, G. M., Holly Lodge, Pound Lane, Sevenoaks.

Harvey, J. N., Carrick Grange Nursing Home, Sevenoaks.

Hemmings, W. G., Holly Lodge, Pound Lane, Sevenoaks.

Hoal, E. A., 5 Woodlands, Mount Harry Road, Sevenoaks.

Maynard, C. B., 60 Granville Road, Sevenoaks.

Pharo, N. H., Carrick Grange Nursing Home, Sevenoaks.

Taylor, E. R., Church Cottage, Weald, Sevenoaks.

Wilmot, P. D. de B., 10 Holmesdale Road, Sevenoaks.

ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BYELAWS.

The following are the Adoptive Acts, Bye-laws and Regulations in force in the District:—

ACTS.

The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, and Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, have been in force in the District since 1st June, 1901.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907: Sections 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33 (Part II.); Sections 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 (Part III.); Sections 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67 (Part IV.); Sections 76, 77 (Part VI.).

Section 91 (Part IX.); Section 95, Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

Section 19 adopted in 1933.

Public Health Act, 1925, Part II., Sections 13 to 35 inclusive (excluding Sections 21 and 22); Part III., Sections 36 to 43 inclusive; and Part IV., Sections 45 to 50 inclusive.

Local Government and Other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1922.

Public Health Act (Amendment) Act, 1907, Section 85. (Adopted 1936.)

BYE-LAWS.

Bye-laws as to the cleansing of footways and pavements, removal of house refuse, and cleansing of earth closets, privies, ashpits and cesspools.

Bye-laws as to nuisances.

Bye-laws with respect to the drainage of existing buildings.

Bye-laws with respect to pleasure grounds.

Bye-laws as to prevention of nuisances arising from snow.

Bye-laws as to regulation of public baths.

Bye-laws as to slaughterhouses.

Bye-laws with respect to hackney carriages.

Bye-laws with respect to Sevenoaks Market. Allowed by the Ministry of Health on the 26th May, 1926.

Bye-laws and regulations with respect to the management of the Cemetery.

Bye-laws in respect of new streets and buildings. Adopted 1928.

Bye-laws with respect to slaughterhouses. Allowed by the Ministry of Health on the 21st May, 1929.

The Sevenoaks (Measles) Regulations, 1929. Dated 17th May, 1929.

The Sevenoaks Town Planning Scheme (Interim Development) Order, 1928. Dated 9th July, 1928.

Bye-laws with respect to advertisements. Adopted 1934.

Bye-laws with regard to Nursing Homes. Approved 1936, and came into force 1st March, 1937.

Bye-laws as to Registries for Female Domestic Servants. Adopted 1937.

Bye-laws with regard to Bradbourne Park Lake Open Space. Approved 1938.

TABLE I.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1938.

Disease.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.														Total cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths
	At all Ages.	at ages—years.														
		Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 3 years	3 and under 4 years	4 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 15 years	15 and under 20 years	20 and under 35 years	35 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	15	...	...	...	1	7	3	2	2	...	...	...	13	...
Diphtheria	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	...	4	...
Typhoid Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Pneumonia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Acute																
Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal																
Pyrexia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	14	1	1	...	1	2	3	3	...	3	...	...	1	...
TOTAL	39	2	1	...	2	10	7	7	8	1	1	...	19	...		

TABLE II.—Deaths Registered during the year 1938.

Disease	Males.	Females.	Total.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Influenza	—	2	2
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	—	2
Other tuberculous diseases	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	—	—
General Paralysis of the Insane, (Tabes Dorsalis)	—	—	—
Cancer	9	10	19
Diabetes	—	3	3
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc....	4	7	11
Heart disease	17	17	34
Aneurism	—	—	—
Other circulatory diseases	5	4	9
Bronchitis	1	2	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	3	4
Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—
Peptic Ulcer	1	—	1
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) ...	—	—	—
Appendicitis	—	1	1
Cirrhosis of the liver	—	—	—
Other diseases of the liver, etc. ...	—	—	—
Other digestive diseases	3	3	6
Acute and chronic Nephritis	—	3	3
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—
Other Puerperal causes	—	1	1
Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	3	—	3
Senility	3	4	7
Suicide	1	2	3
Other violence	4	7	11
Other defined diseases	5	8	13
TOTALS	59	77	136

Urban District Council of Sevenoaks

Report of the Sanitary Inspector

Council Offices,
Argyle Road,
Sevenoaks.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you a summary of the work carried out in the Public Health Department during the year 1938, together with the extensions of sanitary services.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS.

The routine inspections of the District under the Public Health Acts, Factory and Workshop Act, Milk and Dairies Order, Milk (Special Designations) Order, and the Public Health (Meat) Regulations have been carried out, and any nuisances or defects found have been dealt with. During the year it was necessary to serve two Statutory Notices to abate nuisances, and these were complied with within the time allowed.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year one complaint was received concerning the water supplied by the Sevenoaks Waterworks Company. This was investigated and samples taken, and from the reports received, this complaint was not substantiated.

Two samples of water were taken during the year for bacteriological examination from the Public Swimming Bath owned by your Council. The reports upon these samples showed that the water was very satisfactory.

During the year the following main extensions were carried out by the Sevenoaks Waterworks Company:—

Beale's Estate, White Hart	1,398 feet of 6in.
Braeside Avenue	219 „ 6in.
Hillingdon Rise	600 „ 4in.
Bosville Estate	1,059 „ 4in.
Woodside Road	717 „ 3in.
Nash's Estate, Brittain's Lane	1,170 „ 6in.
Nash's Estate, Redlands Road	1,776 „ 3in.
Nash's Estate, Greenwood Way	900 „ 3in.
Bank Street and Dorset Street (renewal) ...	390 „ 3in.

SHOPS ACTS.

Commencing on January 1st, 1938, the duties and powers of the Shops Acts, 1912 to 1934, together with the Retail Meat Dealers' Shops (Sunday Closing) Act, 1936, and the Shops (Sunday Trading Restrictions) Act, 1936, were administered by your Council under delegation from the Kent County Council. During the year 355 visits were made under these Acts and 170 visits under the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Act. Sixty-two contraventions were met with during the year and dealt with satisfactorily. On the whole I am pleased to say that the shopkeepers are only too pleased to comply with the requirements of the Acts.

One application was received from a shopkeeper under Section 5 of the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Act, 1936, for permission to sell on Sunday the articles set out in the third schedule of the Act. This application was refused by your Council. No application has been received under Section 2 of the Act for a Partial Exemption Order for the opening of shops on Sunday.

HOUSING.

During the year 15 houses were demolished, representing four Clearance Areas under the Housing Act, 1936. The tenants from these cottages were either re-housed by your Council in the scheme which was completed during the year in Hillingdon Rise, or they obtained suitable accommodation prior to the Orders becoming operative. Two overcrowded cases occupying Council houses were also moved during the year into larger houses built by your Council.

Four cases of overcrowding were relieved during the year. and one new case was detected.

DRAINAGE.

During the year the following new soil sewers were laid:—

St. John's Road	...	...	...	...	...	140 feet of 4in.
Bosville Estate	...	...	...	...	...	190 „ 4in.
„	...	...	...	...	...	725 „ 6in.
Shenden Way	...	...	...	...	...	720 „ 6in.
Greenwood Way	...	...	...	...	...	670 „ 6in.
Brittain's Lane	...	...	...	...	...	4,500 „ 9in.
Redlands Road	...	...	...	...	...	860 „ 9in.

The following extensions to surface water sewers were also carried out:—

Bosville Estate	...	...	...	...	...	230 feet of 4in.
Greenwood Way	...	...	...	...	...	840 „ 6in.
Brittain's Lane	...	...	...	...	...	4,500 „ 9in.
Redlands Road	...	...	...	...	...	860 „ 9in.

MILK SUPPLIES.

All the dairies in the District are frequently inspected, and the bulk of the town's milk supply is produced in the rural areas. There is one modern pasteurising plant in the District, and samples are taken regularly to ascertain that the milk complies with the Milk (Special Designations) Order. There is one dairy farm in the area which is on the Accredited Producers' Roll.

During the year the following samples were submitted to the County Laboratories, Maidstone, for examination:—

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order	...	...	...	24
Ordinary milk	...	...	...	4
For chemical analysis from milk supplied to the Council's				
Hospital, Oak Lane	...	...	...	11
For the detection of tubercle bacillae	...	...	...	1

SLAUGHTERHOUSE, MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS.

Regular inspections of food preparing places, slaughterhouses, etc., have been carried out during the year.

The amount of unsound food surrendered and destroyed was 1 ton 4 cwt. 2 qrs. 22 lb. The majority of this food was removed to the Acme Chemical Works, Tonbridge, for destruction.

The insurance scheme inaugurated at the Sevenoaks Market is still in operation, and most of the pigs and beasts slaughtered in the area are covered by this scheme. There are 13 licensed slaughtermen in the District, and no complaints have been received regarding the slaughter of animals.

During the year 37 chicken exposed for sale at the Sevenoaks Market, which were unsound and unfit for food, were seized and taken before a magistrate. These were condemned by the magistrate, and police court proceedings were instituted against the owner. The case was heard at the Sevenoaks Police Court, and the owner was fined £15 and costs amounting to £3 13s.

SUMMARY.

In accordance with the Sanitary Officers Order, I give below the number and nature of inspections carried out:—

Housing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	184
Meat and Food Inspection Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	626
Milk and Dairies Order	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	175
Factory and Workshop Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Nuisances and Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	360
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	525
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	138
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	193
								2,345
Informal Notices Served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	135
Statutory Notices Served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

I wish to add my thanks to Mr. S. C. Clark, General Assistant, and Mr. N. F. Webber, Clerk in my Department, for the assistance they have rendered during the year, particularly with the extra amount of work involved under the Air Raid Precautions Act.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. J. GYPPS,

Sanitary Inspector.

